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Bangalore Mirror

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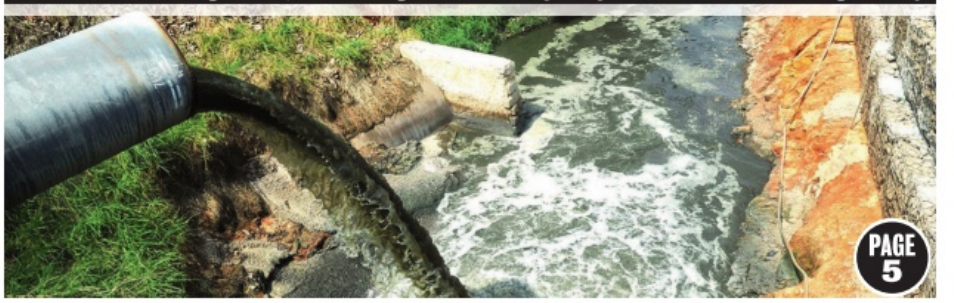
IN TRANSIT

Mass shift to buses amid strike puts spotlight on need for infrastructure upgrade

PAGE 4

K-100 DREAMS

Riddled with sewage lines, Koramangala waterway project far from becoming reality



PAGE 5

As dust and bustle from construction work force some of the stores to shut shop, BBMP says

VV Puram food street is almost ready to be served

WHAT'S ON OUR PLATE? JUST 15 DAYS' WAIT

Famous hangout spot was to open on Aug 15, but contractors' strike affected work

Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

At the famous VV Puram food street, there is a sense of unease these days. The revamped food street was to be thrown open to the public by August 15, but that plan had to be deferred. Now, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is aiming to complete the work within the next 15 days.

The BBMP says that the work got delayed due to a contractor's strike in between and officials are hopeful to have the street remodeling work done within 15 days. In the meantime, some shopkeepers are struggling to keep their business alive, while some have shut shop.

A senior official from BBMP told BM that a majority of the work like laying underground utilities and concrete road work is done. " A granite footpath will be made and we will be giving shelter to each shop. The idea is to create uniformity so that everything looks similar, where even the work is colour coded. We have to still provide food counters, chairs and tables and that is still under progress. We will have all the work completed in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

KAUSHIK JN

"We're eagerly awaiting the completion of the remodelling work so we can bring back the flavours of the food street to our loyal customers

– Store owner

Too many bad air days

City witnesses 38% dip in good air quality days in August over last 3 years

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru has recorded a nearly 38% decline in the number of good air quality days in August over the last three years. The Air Quality Index (AQI) data from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) shows that the number of good air quality days across the majority of the AQI monitoring locations in the city has been tapering off.

On an average, while Bengaluru recorded 21 good air quality days in August 2021, this went down to 18 in August 2022. This year, the number of good AQI days, on average, has plummeted to 13.

PAGE 3
2-WHEELER TROUBLE

Making matters worse, the number of poorer air quality days (AQI between 101 and 200) has gone up. While only two such days were recorded in August 2021 across the city, nearly seven moderate air quality days, on average, were recorded in August 2022. This number has reached 13 this year.

KSPCB had installed seven AQI

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Musical guide

If you are a music enthusiast and interested in improving your voice quality, then you can join the upcoming Voice Analysis Workshop. The training is meant for those committed to refining their vocal prowess. You can also engage yourself in group sessions. **Where: IME Museum, JP Nagar 7th Phase; When: September 23-24;10 am-6 pm, registration: indianmusicexperience.org**

02 Beats and rhythms

Grab the chance to watch some of the renowned artists perform the intricacies of Indian classical dance traditions woven around a myriad of mythological tales, providing parallel insight into the aspirations of the modern world. The event is presented by the Nrityangana Institute of Performing Arts. Artists such as Dr Tina Tambe, Guru Leena Mohanty, Dr Raksha Karthik, Guru Swapna Rajendrakumar, will be performing.
Where: Seva Sadan, Malleswaram
When: Saturday, September 16; 6:15 pm

03 Crafting skills

Here's a chance for you to explore artistries like block print sarees, bidriware, antique furniture, tribal jewellery, Rajasthan metal ware, Kolhapuri chappals, authentic Kashmir shawls and sarees, handicrafts from Kutch, and more at Indian Craft Collective. **Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel**
When: until September 17

At summit of success

Two Bengalureans successfully climb Mount Elbrus in Russia; share challenging experiences of changing weather at peak from morning to evening, and more

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A team of two from Bengaluru, Sandeep V Shah and Rekha Tiwari, who were on an expedition in Russia to climb Mount Elbrus, are said to be the first Indians to complete the climb. Mount Elbrus in Europe is 5,642 metre above sea level and is also known as the tenth most prominent peak in the world.

The project Reroute team, under their project Wilderness on Foot, is on a mission to climb the 14 highest peaks in the world as Indian mountaineers in order to spread a message about the conservation of wildlife, conservation of forests, and increasing forest cover.

In the first phase, the team plans to climb seven of the highest peaks on seven different continents. The focus is on summiting Mount Everest (8,850 m) in Asia, Aconcagua (6,962 m) in South America, Denali (6,190 m) in North America, Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) in Africa, Mount Elbrus (5,642 m) in Europe, Mount Carstensz (4,885 m) in Oceania, and Mount Vinson (4,892 m) in Antarctica.

Currently, the team has covered two peaks so far: Kilimanjaro and Mount Elbrus. A team of five members successfully summited Kilimanjaro in Tanzania on August 23. And on September 2, at 12:53 pm, Sandeep V Shah and Rekha Tewari became the first Indian team to summit Mount Elbrus from the north face, traverse from the east summit to the west summit, and descend to the south face.

Sandeep V Shah and Rekha Tiwari climbed Mount Elbrus in Russia, which is 5,642 metre above sea level and is also known as the tenth most prominent peak in the world

Speaking about the expedition, Sandeep said, "Usually mountaineers need to be particular about their gear. As Africa is a warm country, we had to wear light clothing that was easy on us. We landed in Africa and went for an acclimatisation walk near a waterfall, and we introduced the team to the coffee ground grown there. The second day, we started a walk through a dense forest, where it was very humid. We informed the participant to wear something thin that would help them trek easily. Slowly, when we kept climbing up, the dense forest reduced, and it turned into a scrub forest. The fourth day, we started feeling the cold during the night, and the final summit was extremely cold, and we found it challenging to finish the summit."

Further, he said that even the water they carried had frozen. However, they completed it successfully. On top of the mountain, there was a glacier. People say that about 20–30 years ago, the glacier would have been so thick that it would have covered the Kilimanjaro mountain, but when they saw it now, 80% of the glacier was gone due to global warming. This highlights the need for us to conserve our environment and ecosystem.

> **"I used to explore and find out different routes. During covid, I decided to launch Reroute** –Sandeep V Shah

During the challenges faced at Mount Elbrus, Sandeep said, "As Russia is a cold country, we had to get on to our warm gear. We started to trek and reached our shelters, which were like cabins. We did not stay in tents due to the cold weather. Through cabins, we were able to see Mount Elbrus, and we were chalking our way. The weather conditions would keep changing from morning to evening. It was very challenging. A Russian joined us during the trek, and I, along with Rekha, submitted on September 2."

Reroute is an integrated platform for wildlife trekking, cycling, swimming, and fitness workshops by being close to nature and by knowing more about a sensible and sustainable healthy lifestyle.

Sandeep said that trekking was something that always gave him peace. "I used to explore and find out different routes. During covid, I decided to launch Reroute to bring us closer to nature and forests. Through project Reroute, my aim is to spread awareness about the harm the human race has caused to the environment."

Let soothing waves of kriya yoga wash over you

Sri Sri Paramahansa Yogananda (1893–1952), author of the world-renowned spiritual classic 'Autobiography of a Yogi' and founder of the Yogoda Satsanga Society of India, is a prominent spiritual figure. Regarded as the 'Father of Yoga in the West,' Yogananda was instrumental in bringing about great admiration for the timeless spiritual wisdom of India in the West.

Is it really possible to find something that will bring us real and lasting joy? "Yes, it is," says the Master Sri Sri Paramahansa Yogananda.

The science of kriya yoga is the heart of Paramahansa Yogananda's teachings. Millions were introduced to Kriya meditation across the world in his Spiritual Classic: The Autobiography of a Yogi. This masterpiece has been a continuous best-seller since its release in 1946 and has been translated into over 50 languages.

Kriya science originated millennia ago in India. It is a form of Raja Yoga that quietens the body and mind. Lord Krishna cites Kriya in the Bhagavadgita as a technique for human salvation. The usual turbulence of thoughts, emotions, and sensory perceptions is silenced in Kriya. The Yogi attains deep inner peace and attunement with one's inner divine self. Kriya Yoga was lost for centuries and

was known only to ascetics. In 1861, Mahavatar Babaji compassionately initiated yogi Lahiri Mahasaya and instructed his disciple, Swami Sri Yukteshwar, to train and send Yoganandaji to the West to disseminate the soul-revealing Kriya technique to the world.

Yoganandaji says, "Kriya Yoga is no ordinary breathing exercise; it is the highest known technique of pranayama, by which you can consciously control the life force or prana in the body and thereby attain cosmic consciousness. If you are one of those who are really thirsty to solve your individual problems or the universal human problem of understanding the mystery of life, learn the technique of Kriya Yoga—the scientific spiritual teachings of India.

Therein you will find the answers." The monks of Yogoda Ashram are visiting Bengaluru and conducting lectures on the sacred science of Kriya Yoga on September 14 at Jayanagar.

— BMB

Two-wheelers choke B'luru's roads and air

High concentration of two-wheelers in city fuelling air pollution crisis

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The ongoing drone-based study, a collaborative effort between the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) and the Environment Management Policy Research Institute (EMPRI), has unveiled its preliminary findings. These findings highlight that Bengaluru, in comparison to other tier-I cities in the country, has the highest concentration of two-wheelers. This vehicular composition has been identified as a significant contributor to elevated levels of air pollution.

In a comprehensive analysis of air quality within the Bengaluru Urban district, researchers have found that nearly 70% of the vehicles in 100 selected hotspots are two-wheelers. This prevalence of two-wheelers not only leads to traffic congestion but also results in increased emissions of harmful particulate matter (PM) 10 and PM 2.5.

"Bengaluru's emission inventory shows that the city has the highest proportion of two-wheelers compared with other cities in the country. We have been studying 100 air pollution hotspots in the city over the last couple of months and nearly 70% of the vehicles in the majority of these spots are two-wheelers. The higher proportion of two-wheelers on city roads might be the reason behind the high concentration of PM10 and PM2.5," said Prof. Gufran Beig, chair professor at NIAS.

Experts say most of the two-wheelers, without any lane discipline and turning movement discipline, slow down the traffic leading to high emissions of both particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5). According to Transport Department data on the total number of non-transport vehicles, two-wheelers for 76% of the total non-transport vehicle population in Bengaluru. As of July 31, while the city has 98.75 lakh non-transport vehicles, the number of two-wheelers is nearly 75 lakh.

"The driving behaviour of two-wheelers leads to traffic chaos, mostly at the traffic junctions. They try to sneak into any gap and when the green signal comes up, the criss-crossing movement of two-wheelers slows down the throughput. All the vehicles slow down and the emission rate goes up," explained Prof Ashish Verma, convenor, of Sustainable Transportation Lab, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Experts say dedicated lanes for two-wheelers, proper diligence while granting driving licenses, and strengthening public transport systems with robust first- and last-mile connectivity are some of the ways to bring down the vehicular emission

> **"We have been studying 100 air pollution hotspots in the city and nearly 70% of the vehicles in the majority of these spots are two-wheelers. This might be behind the high concentration of PM10 and PM2.5**
>
> - Prof. Gufran Beig, NIAS

level due to the higher proportion of two-wheelers on the roads.

They opine a subsidized and efficient public transport network is the best solution to bring down the number of two-wheelers on city roads.

"It is the lack of discipline among two-wheeler riders that led the National Highway Authority of India to ban these vehicles on the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway. The biggest reason behind this lack of discipline is the poor driver licensing process. The process should be improved and safe driving practices should be inculcated. Moreover, although they affect traffic flow, two-wheelers are currently filling gaps that public transport in the city is not able to offer. They are also preferred due to the lack of cycling and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure. To add to that, using two-wheelers is a cheaper option when compared with BMTC buses or metro," added Prof Verma.

"Having a dedicated lane for two-wheelers probably will help in the free flow of traffic and reduce congestion," said Prof. Beig.

The study is being conducted using cutting-edge drone-based technology to analyse emission hotspots in the city and identify the relative share of different sources of pollution with a focus on particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5). The researchers are working on quantifying the sources of pollution at these hotspots to understand their relative share.

The outcomes of the study will outline recommendations to devise mitigation techniques in and around the hotspots to improve air quality. It is also a step forward towards developing the first air quality early warning system for Bengaluru and will provide a much-needed recommendation to authorities like BBMP and KSPCB to prioritise air pollution mitigation planning.

The study is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Affordable metro fares: Path to inclusive mobility

Rationalising metro fares can boost ridership among low-income population

A recent study by researchers at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) indicates that rationalising metro fares could significantly boost ridership among the city's low-income population. The study, conducted by Tanmay Ghosh, Tejal Kanitkar, and R Srikanth from NIAS' Energy, Environment, and Climate Change program, has been published in the journal 'Case Studies on Transport Policy.'

Between July and September 2021, researchers conducted a survey involving 436 households near existing metro stations and 914 homes near proposed metro stations. The findings revealed that 65.71% of those residing near established metro stations refrained from metro use due to high fares, while approximately 80% of individuals near future metro stations expressed a strong interest in utilising the services. The survey involved 5,073 respondents from 1,350 low and low-middle-income households across 16 wards. Among these wards, six already have operational metro stations like Deepanjalinagar and Yelachenahalli, while the remaining 10 are awaiting construction, including stations like Shanthinagar, Bellanduru, and Horamavu.

During the time of the survey, the respondents lived within a 1.5km radius of six stations that fall under Phase 1 and 10 stations that were still under construction from Phase 2, 2A and 2B. The median monthly household income of the respondents is Rs 7,805. 81% of the sample constituted households which had a monthly income of less than Rs 10,000.

The researchers have also made projections of two 2031 scenarios. First, a Business As Usual (BAU) projection where the assumption is that the modal share of various transportation systems (metro, bus, auto and other private modes of transport) would remain the same. Secondly, an Affordable Metro Service (AMS) projection assumes that metro and bus charges are equal for distances measuring longer than 5 km.

The study has said that if a ridership shift from motorised transport to the metro takes place, it could improve the modal share of the metro from 7% (BAU) to 17% (AMS) in 2031. As a virtue of the phenomenon, it will also lead to a substantial increase in the daily revenue of the metro from Rs 3.4 crore to Rs 5.9 crore.

The study has also estimated a metro ridership of only 1.3 million while a 2019 study from RITES has said that metro ridership will rise to three million by 2031. The metro's daily average reached a record-breaking 6.24 lakh in August this year. BMB

CRIME FILES

Reward points scam busted

The city police has detained Bommaluru Lakshmipathi, an Andhra Pradesh native for his alleged involvement in stealing reward points and vouchers from a website, which he subsequently used to make substantial online purchases. The cybercrime came to light after Rewards 360, the affected website, received numerous complaints from clients unable to access their reward points and vouchers.

Lakshmipathi, who holds a BTech degree from the Indian Institute of Information Technology in Ongole, Andhra Pradesh, had recently relocated to Bengaluru for employment, following a stint in Dubai. Authorities believe he possesses both legal and illegal web data handling skills and has had a longstanding interest in hacking, dating back to his undergraduate days. The police have seized significant assets from the suspect, including gold, silver, cash amounting to Rs 11 lakh, and seven motorcycles, all of which he purportedly purchased using the stolen gift cards and reward points. According to Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda, Lakshmipathi's spending spree totalled Rs 4.16 crore, encompassing an array of lavish items.

Man stabbed after knife threat

A man wielding a knife was attacked and stabbed by a group of young men in front of a bakery around 6.30 pm on Sunday in Nagarabhavi. The injured, identified as Swamy, is currently undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Swamy, who owns a Nandini parlour in Nagarbhavi, brandished a knife at people in front of a nearby bakery. His actions led to a confrontation with some individuals who objected to his behaviour.

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Transit triumph: 2 Lakh choose public transport

Mass shift to buses amid strike necessitates infrastructural upgrades

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Bengaluru's public transportation systems experienced a notable increase in ridership, with BMTC (Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation) and KSRTC (Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation) reporting significant upticks in passenger numbers. 2 lakh people shifted to buses due to a shortage of private on-hire vehicles on the road.

BMTC recorded a total ridership of 4,616,793 passengers across Bengaluru, surpassing the usual daily average of 4,400,000 passengers. Interestingly, despite expectations of high demand for airport transportation, only a mere 0.4 percent of passengers utilised BMTC's prestigious Vayu Vajra services. Notably, Vayu Vajra saw a surge, with 18,500 passengers on the day compared to the typical ridership of 13,000, marking a substantial increase of 42.31 percent, equivalent to 5,500 additional passengers.

In response to this surge in demand, BMTC proactively added 500 extra schedules on the day to ensure efficient service delivery. KSRTC, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation, also witnessed a notable 17.79 percent increase in ridership, accommodating a total of 3,580,134 passengers, compared to the usual 3,039,314 passengers on a typical Sunday. Bus activists say that government should take up bus week to encourage mass shifting towards public transport." It was a blessing in disguise.

Many people shifted to buses due to a shortage of private on-hire vehicles on the road due to strike by private transport operators

Due to the transport strike, people were nudged towards public transport. We have been insisting the government disincentivize private vehicle usage to enable the shift. The behavioural shift happened over a day. Even the Shakthi scheme has led to a huge increase in bus ridership levels. While there is an investment to improve the infrastructure and services for public transport, cycling and walking, we also need a parallel measure to make personal modes of transport less attractive. We had proposed bus week for Bengaluru but no action has been taken as of now. One week's pilot will allow for complete scientific evidence of the changes from using only buses. In addition, there should be congestion charges, increasing lifetime tax for the purchase of new vehicles, and lesser parking in core areas." said Dr Ashish Verma, Convenor of IST Lab, IISC.

> **"There is a huge demand for buses but people take up autos and taxis due to irregularity in services. For many bus commuters, it's a matter of affordability**
>
> – Srinivas Alavilli, WRI India

Commenting on the subsidy for purchasing vehicles for minority communities, he said that instead, the government is trying to incentivise people to purchase more private vehicles.

Srinivas Alavilli of WRI India said that even people who could afford to avoid public transport used buses on the strike day. "There is a huge demand for buses but people take up autos and taxis due to irregularity in services. For many bus commuters, it's a matter of affordability. Even those who can afford to take cabs took buses on the strike day. There is a need for the government to buy buses in overdrive mode to increase frequency and meet last-mile connectivity. As part of the Personal-2Public campaign, we have been asking the Deputy Chief Minister to make a call for bus use twice a week," he added.

However, activists also point out that BMTC's existing fleet cannot meet a mass shift either. "All campaigns to increase ridership for buses is commendable but 'bus days' might not work out. BMTC does not have enough buses or staff members. The larger issues need to be addressed before bringing out bus days. Existing gaps need to be covered and buses need to meet first-last mile connectivity needs to be met. The onus of solving the city's congestion cannot rest on BMTC alone. It should be the responsibility of DULT and BBMP as well. We need a continued campaign to promote buses. Without footpaths, bus shelters, and the safety of commuters, how can we encourage people to use public transport," said Shaheen Shasa of Bengaluru Bus Prayanikere Vedike.

"In order to facilitate a mass shift, infrastructural upgrade is required. We need more bus shelters, bus bays, bus priority lanes, and priority signalling are the measures we hope authorities will implement to reduce congestion in the city," said a senior BMTC official.

High Court's clockwise cure for traffic woes

Karnataka High Court suggests government explore altering school and office timings to prevent escalating traffic congestions

In a recent hearing of a public interest litigation addressing the escalating traffic issues in Bengaluru, the High Court of Karnataka has recommended that the State Government explore the potential for adjusting the operating hours of educational institutions, as well as various industries and corporate businesses.

In the most recent hearing of the PIL on Tuesday, the High Court bench, comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Justice Krishna S Dixit, suggested that the Secretary of Industries and Labour convene a meeting with representatives from various industries, factories, the Chamber of Commerce, and other stakeholders. The purpose of this meeting would be to gather input and opinions regarding potential adjustments to operating hours in factories, commercial establishments, and other workplaces.

"The State Government through Secretary of School Education and Higher Education may call a meeting of the stakeholders and may take up the issue of revisiting the school timings, to ease the traffic and at the same time consider the aspect of security and safety of the children," the HC said. The PIL filed by Samarpana Trust in 2020, had sought implementation of a 2014 direction of the Supreme Court to avoid traffic congestions in cities. The PIL had specifically sought scientific traffic management between Mekhri Circle and the BDA head office here.

On Tuesday, the HC also directed the authorities to submit a project report on the expansion of the Namma Metro lines in 2023-24.

The state government was directed to submit a status and action taken report on the steps initiated to ease the traffic situation, and the hearing of the PIL was adjourned by six weeks. **– PTI**

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Parking perils

Maruti Layout

Regular parking of vehicles on 8th Cross, Maruthi Layout, is causing significant inconvenience to passersby.

Signal chaos

Jayanagar

The traffic signal at the intersection of 11th Main and 33rd Cross, 4th Block, Jayanagar, has been turned off for a couple of months, leading to chaos as four roads intersect here.

Traffic disarray

Jayanagar

At the junction of 9th Main and 33rd Cross, leading to 11th Main, a lack of traffic signals and police presence leads to congestion. Vehicles occupy both sides, impacting pedestrians.

Saving lives: Easy help call during road accidents

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Are you worried about conveying a message to your near and dear ones when your vehicle is involved in a road accident? If so, you need not burn the midnight oil. You just have to register with Highway Delite and add your personal information, including your blood group, vehicle insurance, medical insurance, and family emergency details.

Highway Delite launched RakshaQR on Tuesday. The RakshaQR is an emergency response assistance product, where bystanders can just scan the accident victim's vehicle's RakshaQR and report the accident to the family of the victim through a call.

The call will be connected over a virtual number, thus keeping the privacy of both the informer and the victim's family. At the moment of this accident report call, Highway Delite takes the location input, and their backend call centre team informs the nearby hospitals and police station, keeping the information private.

Highway Delite will ensure all the information provided by the vehicle owner is secured and encrypted and be visible only to the family emergency contact through SMS in case of an accident intimation call or to the registered vehicle owner as a part of their RakshaQR profile.

RakshaQR also helps vehicle owners to get a notification in case of unattended vehicle scenarios, including wrong parking, unauthorised parking, and vehicle-related issues (fuel leak, windows open, keys left), wherein the bystander/ traffic police can inform vehicle owners about any of the above scenarios through a phone call or SMS by scanning RakshaQR with a basic scanner from their mobile phones. It can be used by all types of vehicles, including two-wheelers, four-wheelers, and commercial vehicles.

The RakshaQR, an emergency response assistance product that has been launched by Highway Delite

Highway Delite founder Rajesh Ghatanatti said that this is just the first phase of RakshaQR, and in the subsequent phases, they would enable much more and bring a connected and digital way of responding with timely medical assistance for accident scenarios through real-time integration with ambulances, hospitals, police stations, NHAI, PWDs, and other motor and transport departments. "We launched the product on a pilot basis last month. Around 1,000 vehicle owners have registered with us till date. RakshaQR will cost the vehicle owners one rupee per day," said Rajesh Ghatanatti.

The saga continues: Work delays of this rajakaluve

Koramangala waterway project construction reaches 60 per cent of progression; project was launched in 2021

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The highly anticipated Koramangala waterway project is still far from becoming a reality, as it remains dominated by sewage lines rather than the envisioned picturesque watercourse. Despite substantial expenditure, progress has been disappointingly limited. The K-100 project, spanning 9.5 km and slated for an upgrade costing Rs 175 crore, was intended to mirror the success of the Sabarmati riverfront development. However, its current state resembles nothing more than a conduit for sewage.

BS Pralhad, Chief Engineer of BBMP, clarified, "We have not incurred any additional expenditure for this project. Thus far, Rs 109 crore has been invested, and construction progress has reached 60%. The current slowdown is attributed to the BWSSB's delay in establishing a separate pipeline for waste disposal."

The Koramangala-Challaghatta valley holds a crucial role in the city's water flow system. During the monsoon, sewage mingles with the watercourse, ultimately reaching Bellandur Lake, infamous for breaching permissible pollution levels and notorious for its froth generation. The ongoing project entails the installation of dedicated sewage pipelines to prevent the mixing of rainwater and waste.

Presently, enhancements have been made to the rajakaluve walls near BMTC and KSRTC central station, Shantinagar, using granite stones. A pathway has been laid, with plans for ornamental plantings and the construction of a pedestrian footbridge. Yet, several aspects, such as the construction of a Church Street-inspired pedestrian path, flanking parks, decorative lighting, and round-the-clock surveillance, are yet to commence.

Rajakaluve details

- Total area of sub-catchment- **32** sq km
- **32** micro watersheds
- Largest microwatershed- **3.92** km
- Smallest microwatershed- **0.19** km
- Total length of the drain- **28.06** km
- Primary drain length- **11.4** km
- Secondary drain length- **16.6** km

Amidst these developments, activists raise concerns that the BBMP has veered away from adhering to NGT norms during the project's execution.

It may be recalled that the project was launched by the then Chief Minister, BS Yediyurappa, on March 25, 2021.

This project was taken up by a private concessionaire on a build, operate, and transfer basis and will be responsible for its maintenance for the first five years. This project is the rejuvenation of the rajakaluve from KR Market to Bellandur Lake. BBMP claims that either side of the rajakaluve will be remodelled on a European-styled pathway.

According to BBMP officials, the works will include the provision and remodelling of existing retaining walls at critical locations to facilitate the waterway project. This will be followed by the construction of a European-styled pathway (Church Street model), cladding, and polishing of the existing concrete retaining wall, including repair works to secondary, tertiary, and roadside drains. The existing bridges will be remodelled, including the construction of composite arch bridges and culverts and the development and re-engineering of adjacent service roads to facilitate water projects with ornamental lighting.

> **"We have not incurred any additional expenditure for this project. Thus far, ₹109 crore has been invested**
> –BS Pralhad, Chief Engineer of BBMP

According to this plan, the drains will be converted into hangout places. It is proposed to change the outlook of the 20-km drain that passes via KR Market, Shantinagar, Hosur Road, and Koramangala and culminates at Bellandur Road.

IN BRIEF

Drunk man assaults woman at midnight

A drunk man entered a woman's house at midnight, punched her eyes, and physically assaulted her. The incident took place in Gupta Layout, Halasuru. The victim claims that the police didn't take any action initially. The accused was called to the police station only when her post about the assault started gaining traction on social media.

On September 11, around 3:30 am, the accused was drunk and was hitting the dogs with stones near the victim's home. Her tenant came out and asked him why he was hitting the dogs.

"He came inside my property and tried to attack my tenant; me and my tenant came out, and he then punched both of us in the face. He also abused me with bad words and threatened to kill me using some weapon," said the victim.

She has also shared a video on X where the person is seen admitting to the police who harassed her.

"I called the police, and when they came to the spot, he agreed that he assaulted me. I filed a complaint at the police station, but they didn't file an FIR; they were waiting for the accused to file a counter case. I am really shocked that I am helpless and that my life is at risk despite reaching out to the police and higher officials," claimed the victim. **BMB**

DMK official attacked, 4 arrested

Banaswadi Police have arrested four people in connection with the attack on gangster-turned-DMK official VK Guruswamy at a hotel in the city, which occurred a week ago. Two more potential suspects are being sought.

On September 4, Guruswamy was having tea with a real estate agent who was assisting him in finding a rental home when a group of five men attacked him with sharp objects and fled the scene. Four special squads were established by the police, who then apprehended the suspect. He is currently being treated at a hospital in Bengaluru. **BMB**

Huge rise in drone pilots

Indispensable tools of modern-day operations: agriculture, environmental monitoring, and beyond

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The nation witnessed the total number of certified drone pilots skyrocketing to 5072 by July 1, 2023

Karnataka and the entire nation of India have witnessed an extraordinary surge in the number of certified drone pilots, reflecting the widespread embrace of unmanned aerial technology. As of July 1, 2022, Karnataka had a mere 13 licensed drone pilots. However, within a year, this number experienced an exponential increase, with 314 drone pilots successfully obtaining their certifications.

Prior to July 1, 2022, India had a modest count of 346 certified drone pilots. Yet, within the same one-year period, the nation witnessed a tremendous surge, with the total number of certified drone pilots skyrocketing to 5072 by July 1, 2023. This astonishing percentage increase of approximately 1364.74% underscores the nationwide acknowledgement of the immense potential of drone technology and its diverse applications.

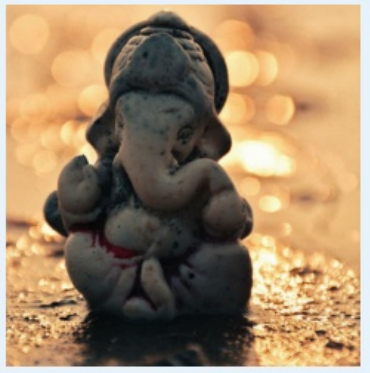
An official said, "The surge in certified drone pilots in both Karnataka and India is indicative of the technology's growing importance and impact on various domains. From agricultural advancements to infrastructure inspections, emergency response, environmental monitoring, and beyond, drones have become indispensable tools in modern-day operations."

Meanwhile, Karnataka has the third-highest number of drone registrations in the Country. According to the latest statistics, out of 5,335 drones with a unique identification number (UIN) across India, Delhi has the highest with 1,263, followed by Haryana 842 and Karnataka 670. In the State, out of 670, there were only 34 registrations in 2021 while the numbers jumped to 636 in 2022 alone. UIN is issued for registering an unmanned aircraft system in India

Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation General VK Singh said, "As of December 14, 2022, the number of drones with Unique Identification number (UIN) was 5335. The Ministry of Civil Aviation issued the National Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM) Policy on October 24, 2021, to facilitate the safe and seamless transfer of goods by unmanned aircraft systems within and across zones. We have also published a drone airspace map of the country on the digital sky platform. The map demarcates India's entire airspace into red, yellow and green zones. Operation of drones in red and yellow zones is subject to permission from the Central Government and concerned Air Traffic Control authorities respectively. No approval is required for the operation of drones in green zones which means the airspace up to a vertical distance of 400 feet. The UTM policy framework is a dynamic document subject to changes based on technological advancements, actual experiences and other developments in airspace management systems", he said. "The Centre has notified the Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (CSUAS) on January 26, 2022. The Certification Scheme ensures that the Type Certified drone meets the minimum airworthiness requirement required for the safe operation of drones. The scheme is based on guidelines provided in the international standard ISO/IEC 17067:2013, for the development of product certification schemes worldwide. To date, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Type Certificates to five companies. The Drone (Amendment) Rules, 2022 were notified on February 11, 2022, abolishing the requirement of a drone pilot license. These rules cover various aspects of the safe operation of drones like type certification, registration and operation of drones, airspace restrictions, research, development and testing of drones, training and licensing, offences and penalties etc. Drone operations that violate the provisions of the Drone Rules, 2021 are punishable under Rule 49 of the Drone Rules, 2021 as well as provisions of any other law, for the time being in force," said an official.

> **"The surge in certified drone pilots in both Karnataka and India is indicative of the technology's growing importance and impact on various domains**
>
> –An official said

During the recent Lok Sabha reply, UM for State in Civil Aviation Gen VK Singh said, "As per an industry estimate, the drone industry is expected to generate direct and indirect revenue of Rs 30,000 crores in the next three years which includes revenue through manufacturing, services, training, data processing and other related goods and services." 48 drone training schools have already been approved by DGCA, while others are in pipeline to ensure adequate skiling infrastructure.



Say no to PoP and yes to eco-friendly Ganesha

In an effort to safeguard the environment and promote eco-friendly practices during the upcoming Ganesha festival, Karnataka's Forest, Ecology, and Environment Minister, Ishwara Khandre, has issued strict directives to combat Idols made from quick setting and insoluble gypsum plaster, also known as Plaster of Paris (PoP). Khandre has instructed his officials from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) will take strict actions against those manufacturing, transporting, selling and discarding such idols.

In the wake of the Ganesha festival approaching, the Minister held a meeting with the officials on Tuesday to ensure the festival is celebrated in an eco-friendly way and gave clear instructions to the officials to file criminal cases against the manufacturers or sellers of the banned idols. Minister Khandre conducted a video conference with district-level KSPCB officials, where he ordered a ban on the sale of POP Ganesha idols across the state.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) issued a guideline in 2020, stating that idols made up of only natural, biodegradable, eco-friendly raw materials without any toxic, inorganic content should be encouraged, allowed and promoted and idols made up of PoP shall be banned. KSPCB also issued a circular last month banning the manufacture, sale, transportation and disposal of heavy metal-coloured idols.

> **KSPCB issued a circular banning manufacture, sale, transportation and disposal of heavy metal idols**

The Minister also informed that he will appeal to the Chief Minister to direct all local bodies and district administration to take strict action against the defaulters under the Water Act, Air Act and Environment Protection Act, 1986.

"If PoP and chemically coloured Ganesha idols are discharged in lakes, dams, rivers, streams or wells, heavy metals such as lead, nickel, and chromium can dissolve in the water, posing risks to us and negatively impacting aquatic life and other creatures dependent on these water sources. Therefore, it is imperative to ban the sale, manufacture and distribution of PoP Ganesha in the public interest and for the community's health," said the Minister.

BMB

Kids to get regular breakfast in school

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Hundreds of students from six government schools in and around Whitefield have faced a lot of problems going to school since the beginning of this academic year.

They were unable to have breakfast before going to school. Many of them left home for school without breakfast and waited until they were served their midday meal at noon. From today onwards, they no longer need to worry about breakfast from home, thanks to the Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor.

The Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor on Tuesday, served breakfast to the students of the Government Primary School at Tubarahalli and flagged off breakfast to five other government schools in and around Whitefield.

This initiative has the potential to transform the lives of students and strengthen our society. The inaugural function was graced by the District Chairman of Inner Wheel Club District 319 and Vinod Thomas, CSR Head of IBS, along with their team, who sponsored this noble cause. Vinod Thomas says his CEO, Matthew, is highly passionate about community service, and giving breakfast to the underprivileged is very close to his heart.

Students are elated about the breakfast facility. They said that it would be a boon for them. "I am very happy to have a breakfast facility here. My mother works with a housekeeping agency. It was very tough for my mother to prepare breakfast for me and go to duty," said Akash, a student at Government Primary School, Tubarahallli.

Feeling happy, Deepa G, another student, said that she wanted to thank the sponsors for providing breakfast." We used to have breakfast last year. However, there was no breakfast served from June to September 11. Now, they have made arrangements for serving breakfast," she said.

Meanwhile, Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor president Shantha Divakaran said that the members of Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor have achieved several crucial objectives in the past seven years by implementing a programme that offers free breakfast at government schools. "Feeding more than 500 children in the morning is a heartwarming thing," said Subramanian.

HEALTH TIP: Frequent exercise plays a pivotal role in regulating hormones and increasing insulin sensitivity, both of which are essential for managing PCOD

Rice water has been shown to help reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles and improve skin elasticity

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THE CALLING

What people get wrong when chasing meaningful work

As a professor, I'm fortunate to teach a course called World Religions for Healthcare Professionals that prepares students for the spiritual and ethical issues they may encounter in their careers. But the class often boils down to life's big questions: What makes life worth living, and how should we live? How do you find your "calling"?

In particular, one thought-provoking paradox captures students' attention. They live in a society where the idea of a professional "calling" is frequently talked about as a quest for personal fulfillment and achievement or satisfaction with one's work. The problem is that the more you aim for success, "the more you are going to miss it," as psychiatrist and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl wrote in his influential book "Man's Search for Meaning."

In Frankl's view, success and happiness come only from dedicating oneself to a greater cause, or to another person. But his perspective – echoed by my students – contrasts with the prevailing way many Americans talk about a "calling" today. As a professor of religious studies, much of my research centers on how society portrays callings and meaningful work and how that has shifted over the past few decades.

Redeeming work

Understanding work as a calling traces back to the German theologian Martin Luther, who famously ushered in the Protestant Reformation. Luther challenged the prevailing notion that nonreligious or nonpolitical work was drudgery and a punishment from the gods – a view that came from Greco-Roman times. The story of Pandora's box, for example, tells of a woman cursed by the gods who accidentally unleashes all forms of evil, including the toils of labor, on humanity.

Luther saw this bias against most forms of work as a reflection of a glaringly unequal society. Every task – even dirty work – held sacred significance, Luther believed. After all, he maintained, God was not above laboring in the dirt to create the universe and human beings in his likeness. God created work not as a punishment but instead as an invitation to participate in his creation.

Therefore, in the same way that one might be called to religious or political life, Luther believed one might be called to glorify God, grow as an individual and benefit others through the work of their hands.

Jobs, careers and callings

Religious understandings of being "called" to a vocation have continued ever since, often recast in secular terms. A particularly influential book about modern ideas of work is "Habits of the Heart," written by Robert Bellah and other sociologists in 1985.

These authors described three different orientations toward work: work as a job, work as a career and work as a calling. The "job" orientation is focused on financial or material gains, while someone who thinks of their work as a "career" aims for social advancement. Someone who senses a "calling," meanwhile, is inspired to produce excellent products or services while growing as an individual and contributing to the common good. In this view, meaningful work ensues through commitments to other people and causes.

However, the authors argued that American society was emphasizing individualism more and more, making this conception of calling "harder and harder to understand." For many Americans, it was "difficult to see work as a contribution to the whole and easier to view it as a segmental, self-interested activity."

The search for significance

Today, employee engagement numbers are startlingly low. Recent research from Gallup indicates that only 1 in 4 employees around the globe feel engaged at work, and workers' stress is at a record high.

Perhaps that's why many fields, like management and psychology, are highlighting the existential need to find meaning at work. Because participation in religious congregations, clubs and other civic organizations that once provided meaningful connection have been in decline in recent decades, work has now become the dominant way that many Americans participate in public life and hope to feel significant. Approaching work as a calling will leave you happier and more satisfied, columnists advise.

In recent decades, researchers studying the notion of callings have focused on work that helps people learn about themselves and experience fulfillment, especially in terms of ego needs like individual success and achievement. Today, the archetype for meaningful work seems to center on how it makes the employee feel.

Rethinking success

What I and some other scholars have argued, however, is that finding meaning at work is more contingent on what motivates you than on the feeling of personal fulfillment.

For example, in a 2011 analysis of 407 undergraduates, those "whose sense of calling seems to be primarily driven in … self-centered" ways were found to be much more susceptible to "negative views about themselves." Those who focused on the "intrinsic" or "prosocial" purpose of work possessed lower rates of insecurity and higher overall rates of personal satisfaction.

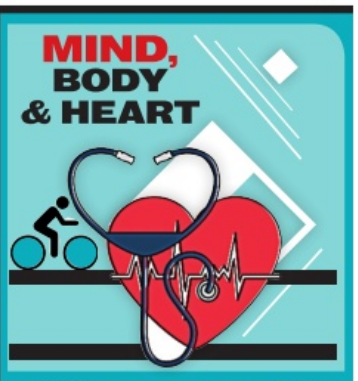
More recently, an analysis of 135 workers from 10 occupations revealed that "individuals tended to experience their work as meaningful when [they realized how] it mattered to others more than just to themselves." In one case, "an academic described how she found her work meaningful when she saw her students graduate at the commencement ceremony, a tangible sign of how her own hard work had helped others succeed."

As it turns out, the way that people think about the meaning of work matters. Pursuing meaning in terms of individual success and achievement makes the goal post of happiness become elusive. Just ask Rainn Wilson, who played Dwight in the hit NBC comedy series, "The Office."

"When I was in 'The Office,' I spent several years really mostly unhappy because it wasn't enough. 'Why am I not a movie star?' 'Why am I not the next Jack Black or the next Will Ferrell?'" he told Bill Maher in a podcast interview.

However, his latest project, "The Geography of Bliss," left Wilson believing that happiness finds us "when we turn from being self-centered to other-centered, when we're of service to others." Meaning finds us, in other words, when we're not so focused on looking for it.

(Garrett Potts, University of South Florida, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Turmeric for tummy

Reduces stomach acid
Researchers found that a natural component contained in the culinary spice turmeric may be as efficient as omeprazole, a medicine used to relieve gastrointestinal symptoms by reducing excess stomach acid.
The findings were reported in the journal BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine.

Curcumin effect
Turmeric is obtained from the Curcuma longa plant's root. It includes curcumin, a naturally active chemical with anti-inflammatory and antibacterial effects, and has long been used as a medicinal medicine in Southeast Asia, notably for the treatment of dyspepsia.

What is Omeprazole
Omeprazole is a proton pump inhibitor, sometimes known as a PPI. PPIs are used to treat functional dyspepsia, a condition characterised by symptoms such as feeling overly full after eating (postprandial fullness), feeling full after only a small amount of food (early satiety), and discomfort and/or burning sensations in the stomach and/or food pipe (epigastric pain).
However, long-term PPI use has been associated with increased fracture risk, nutritional deficiencies, and an increased risk of infections, according to the study.

Side-effects of turmeric use
According to the researchers, no major side effects were detected, while liver function tests showed slight worsening among curcumin users who were overweight.

Limitations of the study
They acknowledge the study's modest size, as well as various other limitations, such as the brief intervention time and absence of long-term monitoring data. They believe that larger, longer-term investigations are required. —IANS

In bad taste

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

next 15 days. The delay in work was due to contractors' strike," the official said.

The VV Puram food street is an iconic street spread across a 200-metre stretch, where one can find food from a variety of cuisines ranging from South to North Indian and even Chinese. In the evenings, the stretch is crowded with people milling about spoilt for choice of food.

However, since the initiation of the remodeling work of the stretch, the stretch has fallen silent. Initially the work was said to start in December 2022, however it was delayed and started early this year.

While some shop owners were still partially managing to use the streets and carry out their business, others have had to wrap up. Many shop owners narrated to BM how their business has been affected.

Nagaraj from Bangarpet Chats and Juice Centre said, "It's been six months since we closed down our shop. We were paying Rs 25,000 as rent. We are facing many losses. We are always told that the work will be completed soon but for so many months it has been pending. We have another shop in JP Nagar and so we are able to manage the expenses."

Another shop owner who has a dosa joint remembered how their

KAUSHIK JN

shop used to be flooded with people. "But now people have stopped coming as the place is dusty. We decided to close the shop and are waiting for the work to be completed soon."

A store owner said how their Chinese food used to draw food enthusiasts from all over the city. "The ongoing construction has really taken a toll on our business. We're eagerly awaiting the completion of the remodeling work so we can bring back the flavours of the food street to our loyal customers," said a store owner.

B'luru recorded just 13 good air days this August

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

monitoring stations across the city covering residential, commercial, mixed, and silent zones.

The stations are installed at City Railway Station; Nisarga Bhavan, Saneguruvanahalli; Veterinary College, Hebbal; Shalini Ground, Jayanagar; KAVIKA, Mysore Road; NIMHANS and HSR Layout, Near Central Silkboard. The Board has added four new monitoring stations at the Jigni Industrial area in Anekal, RV Engineering College in Kingeri, Ksturinagar RTO, and Peenya Industrial Area. The air quality at these stations is monitored round the clock for primary and secondary pollutants.

The worst-hit location in the city is City Railway Station. While it recorded 28 good air quality days in August 2021, only five such days were logged in August this year.

Experts say the number of good or bad AQI days is determined by the concentration of primary pollutants, which are PM 2.5 and PM 10 in most locations. However, poor traffic management due to a surge in the number of vehicles on the city's roads and lack of checks at construction sites leading to tremendous dust pollution might be some of the reasons leading to a drop in good air quality days in the city.

"Construction activities and vehicular emissions are prime factors responsible for high PM10 and PM 2.5 levels leading to deteriorating AQI. While the number of vehicles on roads is going up exponentially, the average speed of these vehicles is going down, leading to traffic stagnation.

This, in turn, is causing poorer air quality. If we are unable to put a check on the number of vehicles on the roads, we must come up with better traffic management practices. Traffic management authorities must ensure that there is a free flow of traffic and thus lower vehicular emission," said Prof Gufran Beig, chair professor at NIAS.

However, to improve the AQI of the city, stress should also be on strengthening the public transport system, say the experts.

"Public transport has to be strengthened, made economical and safe for everyone. Today, bus and metro rides are as costly as autos and cabs. Moreover, new infrastructure projects should not come up at the cost of the city's green cover," said an environmentalist.

Some researchers also underline that although the values thrown up by the CAAQMs paint a rather rosy picture of Bengaluru's air quality, the number and position of monitoring stations in the city are not up to the mark. While the city's geographical location and climatology ensure a high number of windy days and very few stagnant days keeping its AQI under control to some extent, it does not explain 'satisfactory' air quality for a better part of the year.

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I, Subbaiah Chattangada Ramesh S/o Ramesh Chattangada Subbaiah Aged About 31 Years Residing At No.16, 2nd Cross, Chinnamma Layout, Cholanayakana Halli, B'luru-560032 wish to state that my mother's name is printed as C R Kamala (C-Chattangada, R-Ramesh) Instead of Kamalakshi Chattangada Ramesh in my 10th Std. Marks Sheet. Hence, my mother's name has to be considered as Kamalakshi Chattangada Ramesh as per my passport vide affidavit dated: 09th September, 2023 Sworn before notary Uday Kumar K, Blr.

I Munira Ali Asgher W/O, Abdul Qadir R/o No.204 2nd Floor Soni Brentwoods 22nd Main Jp Nagar 5th Phase, Bengaluru - 560078 have changed my name to Munira Presswala.

I Sargam Prakash S/O, Prakash Palaparthi R/o A1-002, Snn Raj Etternia, Silver County Road, Bengaluru have changed my name to Sargam Prakash.

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I Mithin S/O, Sebastian Varghese R/o No-24,elanza, 2nd Main Road, Nri Layout, Kalkere, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560016 have changed my name to Martin Sebastian.

I, Dimple Jain Pukhraj W/o Chirag Porwar R/o 1786(21), Navkar Villa , 9th Cross , Swimmming Pool , RPC Layout VI Jaynagar , B'lore -560040 have changed my name to Dimple Porwar.

I, Mohammed Haj Sheik Mohiyuddin R/at No.42/1, 3rd Cross, P & T Colony, Venkateshpuram, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to MOHAMMED HAJ SHEIK MOHIDEEN vide affidavit dated 11.09.2023 Sworn before notary I.Kanika Raja, B'lore

I, Sitaram Wonnimnai R/o 498/7, Ground floor, 21st cross, MG layout, JP nagar 6th phase, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to SITARAM WONNIMANI affidavit Dt.12/09/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Priyadarshini Rahul Alexander W/o, Rahul Alexander R/o Sai Excellency Apts, Hennur Main Road, B'luru- 560043 have changed my name to Priyadarshini Prasanna Rao for all purposes.

I, Ramesh Kalyanappa Atanur S/o Kalyanappa Atanur R/o N0-87, shantha Nilaya,3rd Cross, Thammenahalli, Andanappa Layout, Achitnagar Post,bangalore North, B'lore-560107 have changed my name to Ramesh for all purposes.

'Karnataka not in position to release Cauvery water to TN'

5,000 cusecs recommendation: State doesn't have enough water storage due to lack of adequate rainfall in the river basin region, says Deputy CM

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday said that the state is in no position to release Cauvery river water to neighbouring Tamil Nadu, as it doesn't have enough water storage, due to lack of adequate rainfall in the river basin region.

This statement from Shivakumar, who is also the Water Resources Minister, came after Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) on Tuesday recommended that Karnataka release 5,000 cusecs of water every day for the next 15 days to Tamil Nadu.

"I'm making it clear that we don't have water. They (CWRC) have given the order (recommendation), tomorrow the matter is going before the higher committee -- Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), where our Secretary will be there, he is a member of it. The Chief Minister (Siddaramaiah) and I discussed the matter in the morning and we have told our officials that we will not be able to release water," Shivakumar told reporters here.

Farmers stage a protest in front of Mysuru MP's office seeking the Union government's intervention to resolve the Cauvery crisis

> **"They (CWRC) have given the order (recommendation), tomorrow the matter is going before the higher committee** – DK Shivakumar

'There is no water, shall discuss'

Reacting to CWRC recommendation, he said Tamil Nadu is said to have demanded 12,500 cusecs, and the CWRC recommendation is for 5,000 cusecs, "but as of now there is no water."

"Tonight and tomorrow morning we will discuss with our Delhi legal experts...we have to save the water for drinking. Farmer's situation comes next, drinking water is the priority now. So, we will inform the Authority that it will be very difficult for us," he added.

Noting that the Supreme Court has already told both the states that it will not interfere in the matter and let the technical committees decide, the Deputy CM in response to a question said that, "I can only say, it is very difficult to release water."

Asked as to whether the twin Cauvery bodies are unable to understand the ground situation, he said, "We have stated our position with facts today, and will do it tomorrow also...they can come to the state and see the situation on the ground for themselves."

To a question whether the situation will lead to legal battle, Shivakumar sought the cooperation of the people and opposition parties to protect the interest of the state.

Asked if he suspected politics behind the orders to release water, he said, "No, I cannot accuse those committees of politics, being in a responsible position. They are sitting in the judge's position. Central government officials, representatives of both states and other states are part of it."

The CWMA had earlier directed Karnataka to release 5,000 cusecs water daily to Tamil Nadu for the next 15 days from August 29, based on the recommendation of the CWRC.

Earlier in the day, Shivakumar had said that currently Cauvery water is not flowing to Tamil Nadu from the state, and Karnataka officials at the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) will make a plea to at least to save water for drinking.

TN approaches Supreme Court

Tamil Nadu has also approached the Supreme Court with a plea to direct Karnataka to release Cauvery water for the standing crops. According to sources, the case may come up before the Supreme Court next week.

Meanwhile, Karnataka BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel has asked the state government not to release water to Tamil Nadu at any cost, and the party will stand with the government in its legal battle on the issue.

"We request the state government and the chief minister -- there is no water in the state for farmers, there is drought situation, there is also shortage of drinking water -- in such a situation water should not be released at any cost. We should file an appeal in the Supreme Court and fight. We are with the government," he said, adding that it is the duty of the government to protect the state's interest. **– PTI**

WFH not allowed for Karnataka govt officials: Siddaramaiah

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said work from home is not allowed for state government employees Speaking at the meeting of District Commissioners and Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officers, Siddaramaiah said, "Officials in district and taluk centers should not work from home. Do not sit at home and work. Work from home is not allowed. The government will not tolerate if people suffer due to this."

"There are also complaints from the public, MLAs and ministers that the officials do not respond to phone calls. This is not good. You should respond to the calls be it from the Chief Minister's office, Ministers, MLAs or common people," he said. The Chief Minister instructed that all the MLAs, irrespective of their party, should follow the protocol without fail.

He warned that it will not be tolerated if the government gets a bad name due to negligence and impudence of the officers.

Siddaramaiah gave clear instruction to DCs and Zilla Panchayat CEOs to invite Ministers and MLAs to hold public meetings at taluk level once a week and respond to their grievances.

The Chief Minister questioned the District Collectors that "if people come to me for small problems, then what are you for." "I have visited many districts after becoming Chief Minister during which common people made hundreds of requests. People are coming to me with problems that need to be solved at the district and taluk level.

This would not have happened if you had held public meetings and provided solutions to them instantly," he said. "Provide solutions for some issues within a week. Recheck whether the issue is solved. Then people will not have to come to me," he said. **– BMB**

IN BRIEF

Cyber safety tips each day, courtesy top cop

To raise awareness and fight cybercrime, Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda will post one helpful suggestion each day on the city police's social media accounts. 'Cyber tip a day Keeps the fraudsters away' is an internet awareness campaign that Bengaluru City Police (BCP) created in an effort to combat the rise in cybercrime.

He said that data indicates that every third Indian has experienced a cybercrime related occurrence where they lost money and possessions. To avoid falling victim to cyber fraud, one must acquire common sense, cyber awareness, and clarity. People can be protected from cybercrime if they are aware. The campaign was launched on September 12. **– BMB**

B'luru airport's T-2 gets going

The swanky Terminal-2 of the KempeGowda International airport in Bengaluru built at a cost of Rs 13,000 crore started operating international flights on Tuesday.All scheduled international flights have started arriving and departing from Terminal 2 from 10.45 a.m. onwards. The airport authorities have made arrangements for passengers to get adequate information in this regard on estimated queue wait time and flight information. **– BMB**

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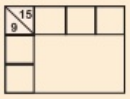
@BangaloreMirror

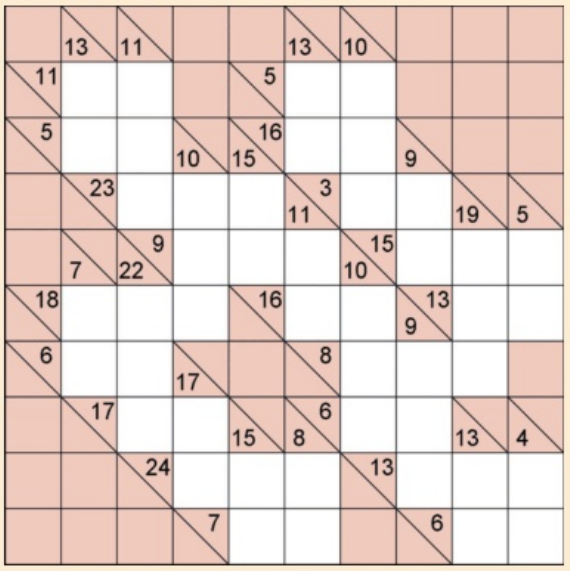
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

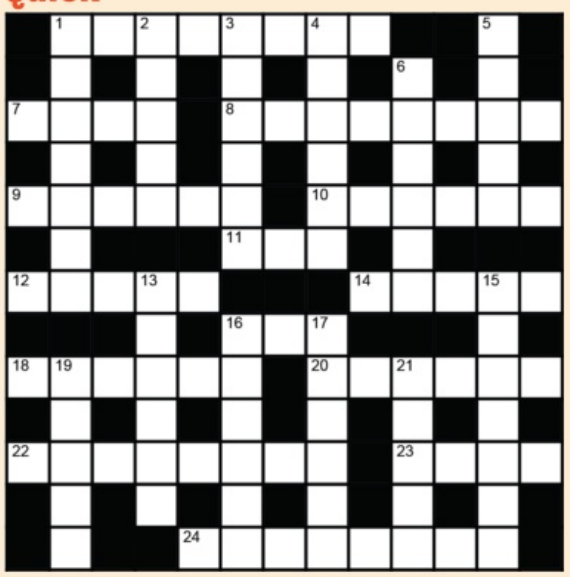


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Exchanging or bartering (8)
7 Garden pest (4)
8 ____ acid : phenol? (8)
9 Military combat (6)
10 Befuddled (6)
11 Indian dish (3)
12 ___ in: typed (5)
14 Puritan (5)
16 Total (3)
18 Accumulate like interest (6)
20 Breaks out like a volcano (6)
22 Unperturbed or controlled (8)
23 Author ___ Murdoch (4)
24 Fortnight (3,5)

DOWN

1 Save from destruction (7)
2 Criminal jargon (5)
3 Chose (6)
4 Routine, not out of the way (6)
5 Rather (5)
6 Edge or limit (6)
13 The Continent? (6)
15 Short simple songs (7)
16 Playground item (6)
17 Lea or hayfield (6)
19 Dynasty which ruled the area around Bangalore in the 11th century (5)
21 Join together (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS G

HIASML SU MTA FDSML DX-TASTMHV, FZA FDSML HFVD AT DEGCDUU DXTASTM.

Linemaro

Know what's on th menu? Me-n-u

Mindchow

In an underdeveloped country, don't drink the water. In a developed country, don't breathe the air

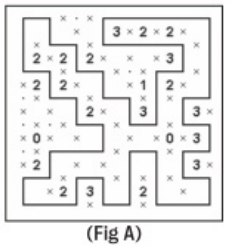
Joke of the day

Do you want to know Victoria's Secret? Their lingerie doesn't look the same on your wife as it does on their models

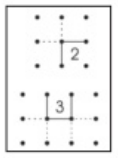
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

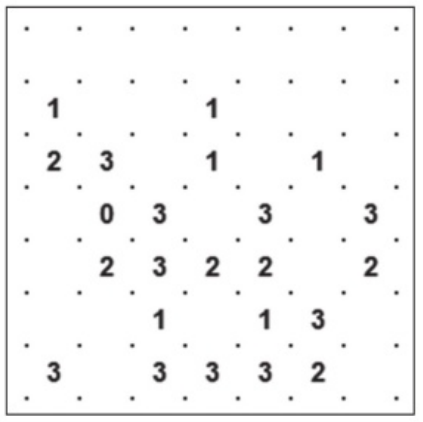


(Fig B) Not Allowed

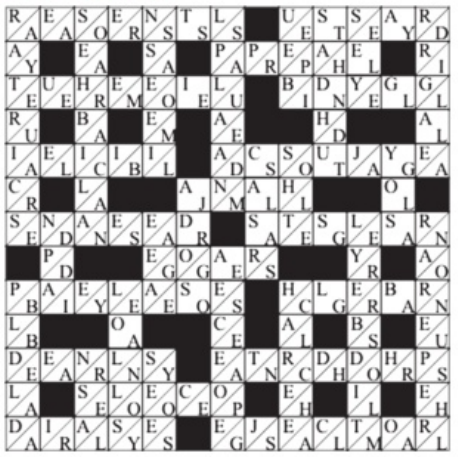
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



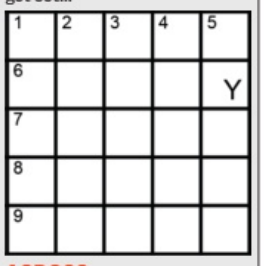
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

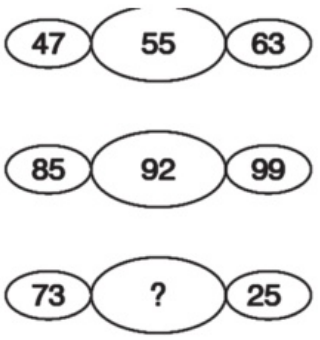
1 Be cud; 6 Ley eg.;
7 Renal; 8 Me EEC;
9 Baths

DOWN

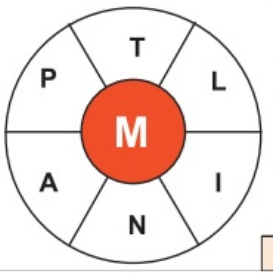
1 Cel be; 2 A mule;
3 Cab he; 4 Greet;
5 Snyde

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; **08** Good; **10** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	5	1				7	2	
			2	5	7			
3	2						6	8
	3			7			4	
1			5		4			2
	6			2			1	
4	9						3	6
			6	4	9			
	1	5				4	7	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 17

2 2 8 9

Medium = 45

2 4 5 5

Hard = 6

2 7 8 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

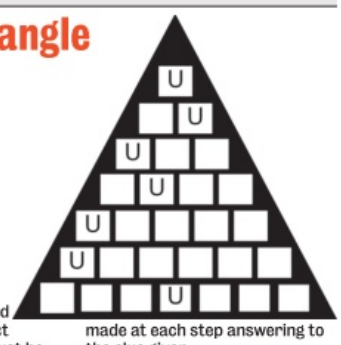
Differences: 1. Fingers are not showing. 2. Arm is longer. 3. Hat is different. 4. Window is not as wide. 5. Counter top is thicker. 6. Man is holding a fork.

Riddler

What do you use from your head to your toes and the more it works the thinner it grows?

Alpha triangle

1 Universal, abbr.
2 Xi preceder
3 Fancy vase
4 Ignite
5 Metropolitan
6 Sophisticated
7 Cloudlike

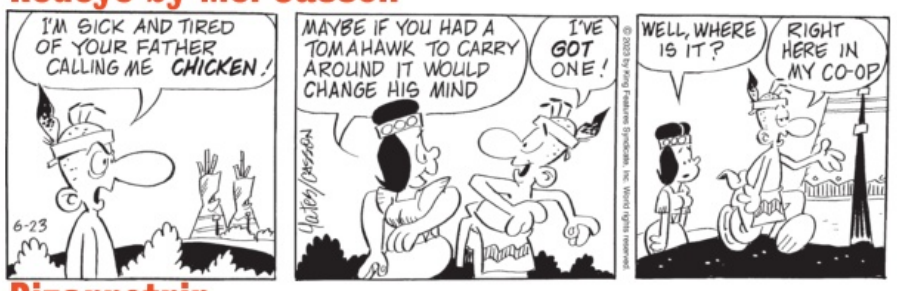


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

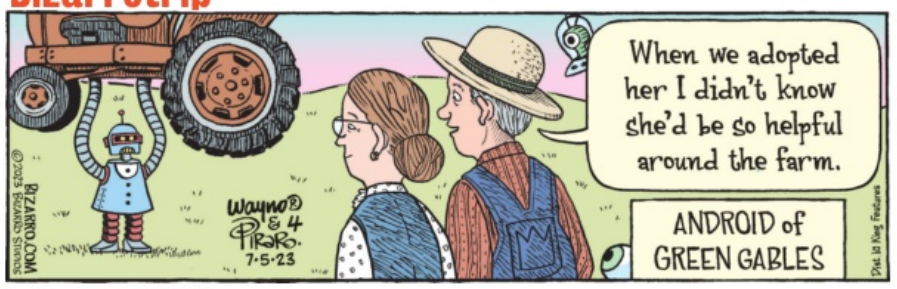
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson


I'M SICK AND TIRED OF YOUR FATHER CALLING ME CHICKEN!
6-23
MAYBE IF YOU HAD A TOMAHAWK TO CARRY AROUND IT WOULD CHANGE HIS MIND
I'VE GOT ONE!
WELL, WHERE IS IT?
RIGHT HERE IN MY CO-OP

Bizarrotrip

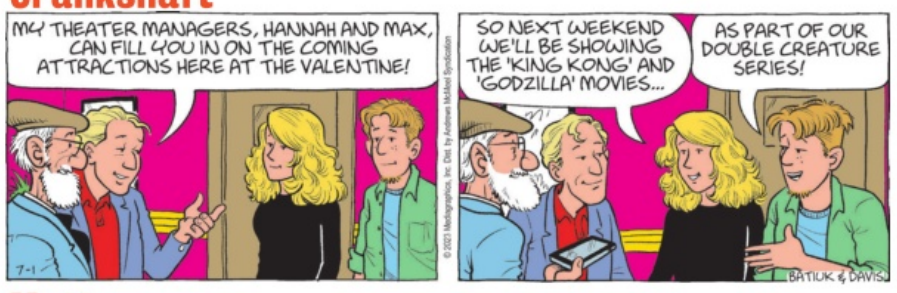


Diamond Lil

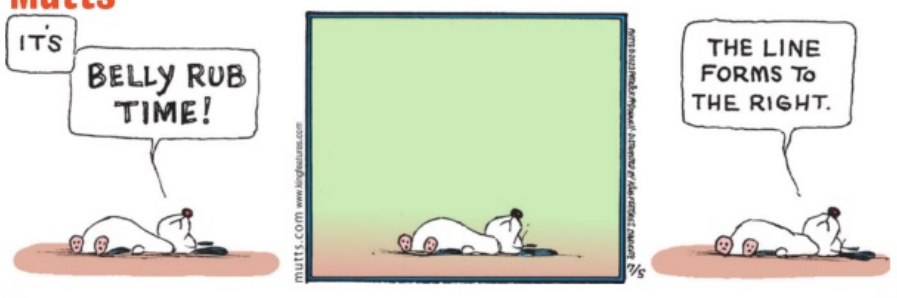
Hart of the city

HEART! KAT! OVER HERE!
I ALREADY DID SOME SCOUTING, AND THERE'S A "FIVE OF RAVENS" TRIVIA CONTEST!
IF WE WIN, WE CAN GET A COPY OF THE NEWEST BOOK!
WE ALREADY PREORDERED OURS, BUT I'LL NEVER TURN DOWN A CHANCE TO COMPETE AND WIN. I'M IN.

Crankshaft


MY THEATER MANAGERS, HANNAH AND MAX, CAN FILL YOU IN ON THE COMING ATTRACTIONS HERE AT THE VALENTINE!
SO NEXT WEEKEND WE'LL BE SHOWING THE 'KING KONG' AND 'GODZILLA' MOVIES...
AS PART OF OUR DOUBLE CREATURE SERIES!

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy at work, and your focus on your goals may be tested many times. Your patience may help you achieve your goals on time. Your dedication to work may be tested as well, and you may likely receive some rewards as a result of your hard work. You may also consider making investments in fixed assets.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, your destiny may help you find success more easily. You may also visit a religious place to seek peace of mind. You may spend your time in earning some intellectual or occult knowledge. Students are likely to perform well. Singles may find a good match, and lovebirds may make important decisions regarding marriage.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel dull, so it is advisable to be cautious of opponents and rivals. Avoid arguments with seniors. Postpone investments in fixed assets as they might become dead investments. Lovebirds should steer clear of discussions on trivial topics to maintain harmony in their relationships.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may enjoy time with your family and share romantic moments with your spouse, which can strengthen your bond. You might spend money on buying artefacts or household items for house renovations. You may enjoy parties and events. You are advised to read the document carefully before making any investments in fixed assets.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel happy and energetic. Exploring and analysing yourself can boost your confidence and prepare you to face challenges fearlessly. You are advised to keep patience in making some financial decisions in business. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today is a good day for you. Your enthusiasm may be at its peak, so it's essential to manage it effectively. Self-analysis can boost your confidence and prestige in society. You will resolve many problems with the help of your communication skills. Investors should avoid speculation before making investments. Consider planning for higher studies for a better career.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may not be able to enjoy your work life as well as your family life. You are advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse otherwise it may affect your emotional bond. Partnership problems may likely be resolved. Singles should take their time before making marriage decisions. Patience can help you navigate messy situations.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon and Mars. You are enthusiastic and may start new innovations in your business, leading to future growth. Consider planning renovations for your home and office with your creative ideas. Your network may become stronger now.

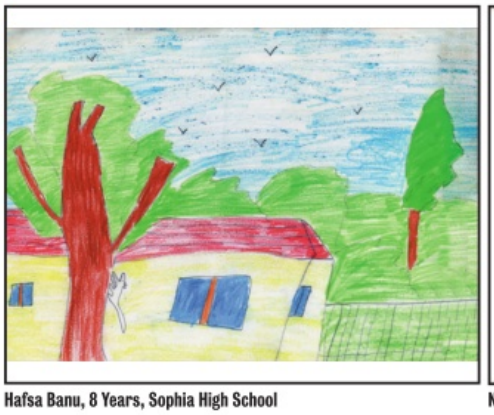
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be busy with family matters and may receive good news from family members. You may also be busy with kids, you may plan for your kid's academics and your kid's health may likely be under control. You are advised to be polite with the people around you, otherwise, you may face some harsh arguments.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel happier and more confident, with increased internal vitality. You are advised to avoid delay in making decisions in terms of finance, profession and academics. Sometimes, you may face self-respect issues with your spouse, so patience is advised to maintain domestic harmony. Lovebirds may plan short trips.

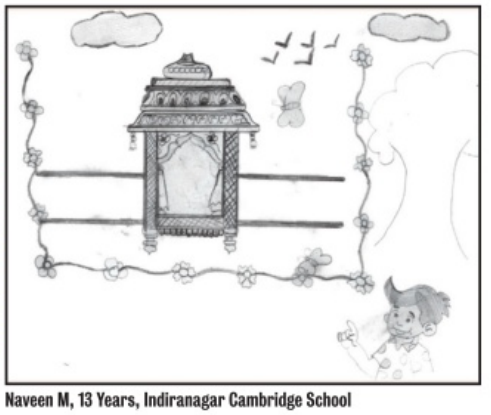
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is not a good day for you, as you may feel dissatisfied and dull. You may be a victim of conspiracy, but you are advised to be careful in terms of hidden enemies and opponents. Avoid speaking harshly to prevent legal issues. Stay away from risky investments.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may experience happiness and enthusiasm, leading to the start of a new partnership that can help your business grow. Your dedication at work may be appreciated by your seniors, possibly leading to a promotion. You may receive incentives and job seekers can expect to find a new job. Singles may find their soul mate with the help of relatives.

KIDZONE



Hafsa Banu, 8 Years, Sophia High School



Naveen M, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
[(9+81)/6]×(0.25¹)⁻¹/₂
¾×0.25⁻¹/₂
15×(1/1/2)
15×2
30

RIDDLER Soap
Acting is not being emotional, but being able to express emotion.

QUOTE UNCODE

C	U	B	E	D
E	L	E	G	Y
L	E	A	R	N
E	M	C	E	E
B	A	H	T	S

FAST FIVE
IMPLANT, lamp, lima, limp, malt, main, matt, mint, palm, tamp

BULL'S EYE

R	E	S	E	N	T	S
A	T	U	R	M	O	I
A	L	I	B	I	A	S
R	B	M	A	H	L	
A	L	I	B	I	A	S
E	A	R	L	Y	A	N
L	O	C	A	B	U	
P	A	Y	L	E	S	S
E	N	N	E	A	D	A
C	A	A	M	A	H	O
A	C	R	U	E	R	U
B	A	T	T	L	E	A
S	L	U	G	C	A	R
V	O	K	M	R	T	
A	R	I	O	B	U	
S	W	A	P	P	I	N

STRIKE OUT

D	R	A	Y	S	E	J
A	S	L	E	E	P	H
E	A	R	L	Y	A	N
L	O	C	A	B	U	
P	A	Y	L	E	S	S
E	N	N	E	A	D	A
C	A	A	M	A	H	O
A	C	R	U	E	R	U
B	A	T	T	L	E	A
S	L	U	G	C	A	R
V	O	K	M	R	T	
A	R	I	O	B	U	
S	W	A	P	P	I	N

QUICK

			T	W	O	W
C	O	M	P	O	S	E
H		O		E		A
A	C	R	U	E	R	U
		S	U	M		I
K	E	Y	E	D		P
		G		D	A	L
B	A	T	T	L	E	A
S	L	U	G	C	A	R
V	O	K	M	R	T	
A	R	I	O	B	U	
S	W	A	P	P	I	N

MENSA PUZZLE
49: (73 + 25) ÷ 2

SUDOKU

6	1	5	3	8	6	3
7	8	3	6	4	9	2
4	9	2	7	1	5	8
5	6	4	9	2	8	3
1	7	9	5	3	4	6
2	3	8	1	7	6	9
3	2	7	4	9	1	5
8	4	6	2	5	7	1
9	5	1	8	6	3	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
U, Nu, Urn, Burn, Urban, Urbane, Nebular.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 – 2 + 2 + 9 = 17
Medium
4 × 5 × 2 + 5 = 45
Hard
8 – 3 + 7 / 2 = 6

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Marilyn Monroe's house saved
Hollywood icon Marilyn Monroe's LA residence, the only property she owned in her life, has been saved from demolition after a backlash from residents in the neighbourhood

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Ode to perseverance

At the muhurat function of Bhagiratha held at Bande Mahakali Temple, veteran director Om Sai Prakash sounded the clap board while Rajesh Rajaghatta of Siri Kannada TV channel switched on the camera. K Ramesh and B Bairappa Mysuru are bankrolling the movie under the Sai Ramesh Productions banner while Ram Janardhan is directing this movie.

"I debuted as a director in Sandalwood with Boy Friend that released in 2005. I have directed other films and acted in some too. Generally, we call a person who is known for perseverance as Bhagiratha. The title of the movie – Bhagiratha – has a connection with the movie's script. We have decided to shoot the movie in and around Mysuru in a single schedule," said Ram Janardhan, adding that the movie revolves around a tussle between media and business establishment.

Om Sai Prakash will play a key role. "I am playing a mutt chief in this movie. I have helmed more movies than the number of movies I have acted in," said Om Sai Prakash.

Jayaprakash, who acted in Jamaana, is playing the lead while Chandana Raghavendra is paired opposite him. She plays a journalist. "I am happy to have this opportunity. The script of the movie is interesting," said Jayaprakash.

It's crow time, folks

Newcomers have been making attempts to helm movies based on a variety of unique stories.

Now, Vedh is joining the list of directors to helm an experimental movie. Vedh's movie is based on a crow. Prior to this, Vedh handled the megaphone for the movie School Ramayana which is yet to be released.

Vishwanath GP, who is bankrolling the movie Raven, said many people consider crow as an inauspicious bird without knowing its importance.

"The script by Vedh is very interesting. We are all aware of the success of the Eega movie directed by SS Rajamouli. It was based on a housefly and Sudeep played a key role in that movie. We want to highlight the importance of the crow. The movie will have all ingredients to keep the audiences on the edge of their seats. It belongs to the psychological thriller genre," said Vishwanath, who is debuting as a producer in Sandalwood with this film.

The muhurat of Raven was attended by prominent personalities including former minister K Gopalaiah, attended the function. The movie is scheduled to go on floors from September 21 and its shoot will be held in Bengaluru, Mysuru, Mangaluru, Malnad and Udupi.

On a song

Shilpa Shetty opens up about how her hit songs helped her survive

Shilpa Shetty, who is currently busy promoting her upcoming movie, 'Sukhee', recently opened up about being typecast into glamorous roles throughout her career in the 90s. The actress said that she never got the tag of an actor. She always got relegated or rather typecast into being just a glamorous actor, which is also a great niche to have because today she can proudly say that she can do a film like 'Sukhee'.

According to her, being glamorous is aspirational and it's ok as long as you can carve your niche. The actress added that she can say proudly that she picked from whatever was offered to her and she survived.

Elaborating further, Shilpa told Siddharth Kanan in the interview that she has had a long career with many lows that she used to wonder why she was never offered a film with big banners. The actress added that whatever she has achieved is by working in small films with big actors. She did small characters and no matter whether her films worked or not, all her songs were hits. According to her, she is surviving because of her songs.

After a long gap of 13 years, Shilpa returned to acting with 'Hungama 2' in 2021. Shilpa believes she has never worked for money. She recalled that there are films she has not received money for since the producers claimed that they had incurred losses.

—ETimes

Happy to see PC's rise

Priyanka Chopra Jonas had created a stir earlier this year where she had talked about leaving Bollywood after being pushed into a corner in the Hindi film industry. She then moved to pursue a career in the west and now she has become one of the leading actresses in Hollywood. Months after her viral podcast with Dax Shepard, Karan Johar was asked about his reaction to Priyanka doing incredibly well after making that shift.

The filmmaker told ET Canada that to see Priyanka grow from strength to strength and truly achieve success on her own terms has been fantastic. He also added that Priyanka has always been wonderful on every platform and everything that she ever stands for and represents. After Priyanka's shocking revelation about Bollywood, netizens were quick to train their guns towards Karan citing their on-and-off friendship over the years. Later, Karan and Priyanka were seen hugging and interacting with each other at the grand opening of the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC).

— ETimes

Love above all

Bollywood's Bebo Kareena Kapoor Khan is making headlines these days, as she is all set to make her OTT debut with 'Jaane Jaan'. In a recent interview, the actor broke her silence on trolls who slam her for her interfaith marriage and age gap with husband Saif Ali Khan.

Speaking about that with The Indian Express, Kareena said that age has never been the matter. If anything, Saif has only turned hotter with time. Also, she is happy that she is 10 years younger than Saif, and it should be him who needs to be worried.

On a serious note, Kareena said that at the end of the day what matters is that they have respect and love for each other and that they have fun together. Addressing the interfaith marriage, Kareena said people spend so much time and energy around these things. The important thing is that she and Saif enjoy each other's company.

—ETimes

Back with a bounce

Actress Saiyami Kher, who has been enjoying the response to her latest theatrical release 'Ghoomer', reflected on her transformative journey and on the shift from facing back to back rejection to working alongside some of the best filmmaking talents in the Hindi film industry.

The actress said that she developed a thick skin with patience as the key which helped her navigate her path. For Saiyami, the turning point came when acclaimed director Anurag Kashyap cast her in the lead role for the streaming film 'Choked'. Speaking about her journey, the actress said: "The path hasn't been smooth, and there were times when the rejections were disheartening. However, I held onto the belief that my time would come."

—IANS